

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 135808
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF/C:TBUCHANAN:PCS

APPROVED BY P:PCHABIB

AF:TSEELYE

H:BATWOOD

PM:RERICSON

S/S-0: LRMACFARLANE

-----121932Z 042906 /42

O R 121921Z JUN 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 135808

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, CG

SUBJECT: FAZ REORGANIZATION PLAN

REFERENCE; KINSHASA'S 5481

1. WE ARE NOTIFYING CONGRESS THAT WE WILL BE SHIPPING FURTHER NON-LETHAL EQUIPMENT TO ZAIRE IN RESPONSE TO ZAIRE'S REQUEST (KINSHASA 5114). YOU MAY ACCORDINGLY TELL GENERAL BABIA THAT THE EQUIPMENT WILL BE ARRIVING AS SOON AS AIR TRANSPORT CAN BE ARRANGED.

2. WE ARE ALSO INFORMING CONGRESS REGARDING THE REORGANIZATION PLAN DEVELOPED BY ZAIRE WITH FRENCH AND BELGIAN ASSISTANCE, EXPLAINING THAT OUR PROPOSED "UPGRADE PACKAGE" IS NOW SEEN TO BE PREMATURE AT THIS PHASE OF REORGANIZATION AND MODERNIZATION. WE ARE TELLING CONGRESS THAT, BASED ON THE LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE SHABA INVASION, ZAIRE WISHES TO USE OUR FY 1977 AND ANY 1978 FMS CREDITS TO FILL URGENT NEEDS IN THE TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATION

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ZATION PLAN DEVELOPED BY ZAIRE WITH FRENCH AND BELGIAN ASSISTANCE, EXPLAINING THAT OUR PROPOSED "UPGRADE PACKAGE" IS NOW SEEN TO BE PREMATURE AT THIS PHASE OF REORGANIZATION AND MODERNIZATION. WE ARE TELLING CONGRESS THAT, BASED ON THE LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE SHABA INVASION, ZAIRE WISHES TO USE OUR FY 1977 AND ANY 1978 FMS CREDITS TO FILL URGENT NEEDS IN THE TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATION

AND TRAINING AREAS. WE ARE TELLING CONGRESS--AND YOU MAY SO INFORM BABIA--THAT WE HEARTILY APPROVE OF THE REORGANIZATION PLANS, AS THEY HAVE BEEN EXPLAINED TO US, AND WE ARE PREPARED TO SEE OUR CREDITS USED IN THESE TRADITIONAL AREAS OF US MILITARY AID TO ZAIRE.

3. WE HAVE OMITTED REFERENCE TO INFRASTRUCTURE IN OUR APPROACH TO CONGRESS SINCE THIS IS NOT AN AREA OF TRADITIONAL FMS FUNDING. YOU SHOULD POINT THIS OUT TO GENERAL BABIA, NOTING THAT WE ARE NOT PREPARED TO FUND ANY LOCAL CURRENCY COSTS OF INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS. WE WOULD ALSO NEED TO KNOW PRECISELY WHAT FOREIGN EXCHANGE CONTRIBUTION WE WOULD BE ASKED TO MAKE TO INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS BEFORE REACTING TO HIS GENERAL REQUEST.

4. FINALLY, YOU SHOULD TELL BABIA THAT WE WILL WISH TO SIT DOWN WITH ZAIRE, FRANCE AND BELGIUM TO DISCUSS THE REORGANIZATION PLAN IN GREATER DETAIL, TO SEE HOW OUR "UPGRADE PACKAGE" MIGHT EVENTUALLY FIT INTO THE PLAN, OR WHETHER IT SHOULD BE SUBSTANTIALLY MODIFIED OR SCRAPPED. VANCE

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